

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 09/980,712
Attorney Docket No. Q67023

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended): A storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette, comprising:

a storage part comprising:

a bottom plate that is opposed to a back or front surface of the magnetic tape cassette, and

inner walls disposed erect on edge portions of the bottom plate for enclosing the side surfaces of the magnetic tape cassette; and

a cover part openably and closably connected to said storage part through a hinge part, said cover part comprising:

outer walls for enclosing said inner walls of said storage part, and

a cover plate with said outer walls disposed erect thereon,

wherein on at least one of a the neighboring portions of the connecting portion portions between said bottom plate and said inner walls of said storage part and a the neighboring portions of the connecting portion portions between said cover plate and said outer

walls of said cover part, there are provided at least one pair of ribs so as to project inwardly of said storage part or said cover part, and

wherein said ribs define, between the back surface or front surface of said magnetic tape cassette and said bottom plate of said storage part or said cover plate of said cover part, a predetermined clearance capable of storing an information sheet therein.

2. (Currently amended): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said ribs are disposed substantially over an ~~the~~ entire area ~~areas~~ of said connecting portion ~~portions~~.


3. (Previously presented): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 1 or 2, wherein said storage part and said cover part are structured such that the longitudinal side of said bottom plate of said storage part and the longitudinal side of said cover plate of said cover part are connected to said hinge part.

4. (Previously presented): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 1 or 2, wherein said storage part and said cover part are structured such that the transverse side of said bottom plate of said storage part and the transverse side of said cover plate of said cover part are connected to said hinge part.

5. (Currently amended): A storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette, comprising:

a storage part capable of storing said magnetic tape cassette therein; and

a cover part including a cover plate opposed to a front or back surface of said magnetic tape cassette stored in said storage part and side walls disposed erect on the edge portion of said cover plate, and connected openably and closably to said storage part through a hinge part,

 wherein a pair of ribs are provided on ~~the neighboring portions of the~~ connecting portions of said cover plate and said side walls of said cover part so as to project inwardly of said cover part; and,

a sheet-shaped member disposed substantially parallel to said cover plate of said cover part with a given distance between them, said sheet-shaped member having two end portions that are fixed to said ribs, said sheet-shaped member defining, between said cover plate of said cover part and itself, a predetermined clearance capable of storing an information sheet therein.

6. (Previously presented): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 5, wherein said ribs are respectively structured in such a shape that, when said magnetic tape cassette is stored, said ribs are operable to press against said magnetic tape cassette to said storage part side.

7. (Previously presented): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 5 or 6, wherein said storage part and said cover part are structured such that the longitudinal sides of said bottom plate of said storage part and said cover plate of said cover part are connected to said hinge part.

8. (Previously presented): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 5 or 6, wherein said storage part and said cover part are structured such that the transverse sides of said bottom plate of said storage part and said cover plate of said cover part are connected to said hinge part.

9. (Original): A storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette consisting of an integral body comprising:

a storage part capable of storing the magnetic tape cassette therein;
a cover part including outer walls for enclosing said storage part; and,
a hinge part for connecting together said storage part and said cover part in an openable and closable manner,

wherein the dimension of said hinge part is set such that, when said cover part is closed while said magnetic tape cassette is stored, between said cover part and said magnetic tape

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cassette, there can be defined a clearance capable of storing a sheet bundle therein; and, in the range of said clearance and on said hinge part, there are disposed one or more ribs each including mutually opposed surfaces.

10. (Original): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said ribs comprise a pair of ribs each having a U-shaped section and said pair of ribs are disposed near to the end portions of said hinge part in such a manner that they respectively have U-shaped openings opposed to each other.

11. (Currently amended): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said ribs comprise a pair of ribs each having ~~of~~ two parallel flat plates and said pair of ribs are disposed near to the end portions of said hinge part.

12. (Original): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said ribs comprises a pair of ribs each having two parallel flat plates having mutually opposed, convexly curved surfaces and said pair of ribs are disposed near to the end portions of said hinge part.

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13. (Original): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said rib comprises a rib having two parallel flat plates having mutually opposed, convexly curved surfaces and said rib is disposed in the central portion of said hinge part.

14. (Currently amended): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said rib comprises a rib having a rectangular section and said rib is disposed substantially over an ~~the~~ entire area ~~areas~~ of said hinge part.

15. (Currently amended): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said rib comprises a rib having two parallel flat plates and said rib is disposed substantially over an ~~the~~ entire area ~~areas~~ of said hinge part.

16. (Currently amended): The storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in any one of Claims 9 to 15, wherein said storage part and said cover part are structured such that the longitudinal sides of a ~~said~~ bottom plate of said storage part and a ~~said~~ cover plate of said cover part are connected to said hinge part.

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17. (Currently amended): A storage case for storing a magnetic tape cassette as set forth in any one of Claims 9 to 15, wherein said storage part and said cover part are structured such that the transverse sides of a ~~said~~ bottom plate of said storage part and a ~~said~~ cover plate of said cover part are connected to said hinge part.
